



Oregon

**State Board of Examiners for
Engineering & Land Surveying**

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EXAMINATIONS & QUALIFICATIONS COMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting

June 15, 2012

Members present:

Grant Davis, Chair

Steven Burger

Amin Wahab

John Seward (excused absence)

Staff present:

Mari Lopez, Executive Secretary

Amanda Sloan

Tina Sorensen

Jenn Gilbert (excused absence)

Matt Bryan (excused absence)

Jennifer O'Neill (excused absence)

Others present:

Katharine Lozano, Assistant Attorney General

The meeting of the Examinations and Qualifications (E&Q) Committee meeting was called to order at 10:02 a.m. in the conference room of the Oregon State Board of Examiners for Engineering and Land Surveying (OSBEELS) office at 670 Hawthorne Avenue SE, Suite 220, Salem, OR 97301.

Unfinished Business

Conference Call

Michael (Medhat) Nakhla – The Committee held a conference call with Michael (Medhat) Nakhla as requested by the Board during the May 8, 2012 Board meeting regarding the disciplinary actions against Mr. Nakhla entered into with the Arizona State Board of Technical Registration and the Stipulated Agreement made by the Nevada State Board of Professional Engineers & Land Surveyors (NV Board). After a lengthy discussion, **the Committee determined that compliance was met. As a result, Mr. Nakhla will be placed on the list of comity applications for approval in mechanical engineering by the Board during the July 10, 2012 Board Meeting.** However, the Committee determined that Mr. Nakhla did not qualify for registration as a fire protection engineer in accordance with ORS 672.148 and OAR 820-010-0200(3). Staff will provide Mr. Nakhla a formal letter accordingly.

Kenneth Savage – The Committee held a conference call with Kenneth Savage as requested by the Board during the May 8, 2012 Board meeting regarding the disciplinary actions against Mr. Savage made by the NV Board. After a lengthy discussion, **the Committee determined that compliance was met. As a result, Mr. Savage will be placed on the list of comity applications for approval by the Board during the July 10, 2012 Board Meeting.** Staff will provide Mr. Savage a formal letter accordingly.

New Business

Examinee Comment Form

The Committee reviewed an Examinee Comment Form from ID# 78853. After a brief discussion, the Committee determined that all Examinee Comment Forms are to be forwarded to the exam committee for review.

Clarification of “Active Participation”

The Committee reviewed a memo from staff seeking clarification between the definition of “active participation” outlined in Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR) 820-010-0635(5)(f) versus attendance outlined in OAR 820-010-0635(3)(k). After a brief discussion, the Committee clarified that OAR 820-010-0635(5)(f) means to be fully engaged in a professional or technical society, committee, or board (above and beyond); whereas in OAR 820-010-0635(3)(k) is simply attending committee meetings or general business meetings of any organization.

April 2012 Oregon Specific Forest Engineering Examination Results

The Committee reviewed a memo from staff regarding the forestry exam. The grading key has not been provided, graders have made notations and commentary on the actual hard copy of the completed exam, including some editorializing and personal commentary. After a lengthy discussion, **the Committee determined to forward the matter to legal counsel for review.** **Upon receipt, further discussion will be held with the full Board.**

Request to sit for October 2012 PE Examination

The Committee reviewed a memo from staff regarding the Civil PE examination application of Brendan Hines which was forwarded to the April 2013 examination administration by the Committee during the February 17, 2012 meeting. Mr. Hines submitted a request to be permitted to sit for the October 2012 examination administration. After a brief discussion, the Committee determined to remain consistent with the decision made during the February 17, 2012 Committee meeting and deny Mr. Hines’ request. Staff will inform Mr. Hines accordingly.

April/October 2011 Exam Diagnostic

The Committee reviewed an email from Tim Miller, Director of Examination Services for National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES) regarding NCEES’s scoring software and the diagnostic reports that are generated for failing examinees. Correspondence from Mr. Miller provided that an anomaly was found in their scoring software that scores the examinees and also produces the diagnostic reports for failing examinees. After their investigation of the April 2011 and October 2011 administrations, they discovered that 2 Oregon candidates were affected. After a lengthy discussion, the Committee determined to forward the matter to legal counsel for review.

Oregon Specific Land Surveying Examination Appeal Request

The Committee reviewed a memo from staff informing the Committee that an appeal request was submitted by Raymond E. Slater and has been forwarded to the Exam Committee for review. There was no further discussion.

Informational

Notice of Future Changes to NCEES Exams and Supporting Materials

The Committee reviewed a memo dated April 26, 2012 from NCEES, regarding NCEES's implemented changes to three examinations and introduction of a new examination. There was no further discussion.

NCEES Moving Administration Date, Updated Specifications for PE Industrial exam

The Committee reviewed a news release dated May 1, 2012 from NCEES, regarding NCEES moving the PE Industrial exam from October to April beginning April 2013. There was no further discussion.

New Developments in Aftermath of Deepwater Horizon Disaster

The Committee reviewed a news release dated May 3, 2012 from NCEES, reminding Member Boards the vital role that the licensing of engineers plays in protecting the public. During a brief discussion, Committee Member Amin Wahab announced that he has been appointed as a Member of the NCEES Industrial Exemption Task Force for the 2012-13 period.

Review of Applications

Comity Applications

Efran Babazadehasbagh – The Committee reviewed a comity application from Efran Babazadehasbagh for professional registration as an electrical engineer by comity. Ms. Babazadehasbagh provided an official credential evaluation from NCEES Credential Evaluations demonstrating her Bachelor of Science (BS) in Electrical Engineering from Tabriz University conferred in May 2004 is deficient in 1 semester credit hour in math/basic sciences. Ms. Babazadehasbagh also provided official verification from the State of California demonstrating successful passage of the NCEES 8-hour Fundamentals of Engineering (FE) examination in October 2008, as well as successful passage of the NCEES 8-hour Professional Engineering (PE) examination in the Electrical discipline in April 2010. Additionally, Ms. Babazadehasbagh provided a detailed experience record demonstrating 7 years and 7 months of qualified engineering experience and 5 references verifying her engineering experience. After a brief discussion, the Committee determined that Ms. Babazadehasbagh does not qualify for registration as an electrical engineer; however, she may qualify for registration as an electrical engineer upon completion of the 1 deficient semester credit hours in math/basic sciences or by obtaining 4 years and 5 months of qualified engineering experience. Staff will inform Ms. Babazadehasbagh accordingly.

Richard Ballard – The Committee reviewed a comity application from Richard Ballard for professional registration as a civil engineer. Mr. Ballard had been disciplined by the Idaho Board of Registration of Professional Engineers and Professional Land Surveyors (ID Board).

After a brief discussion, **the Committee determined that compliance was met. As a result, Mr. Ballard will be placed on the list of comity applications for approval by the Board during the July 10, 2012 Board Meeting.** Staff will inform Mr. Ballard accordingly.

Additionally, during the Board's investigation of Mr. Ballard's disciplinary action with the ID Board, it was brought to the Committee's attention that Mr. Richard H. Harbert also received disciplinary actions from the ID Board which resulted in revocation of his license. Mr. Harbert has been consistently registered with OSBEELS since 1999. It was noted that nothing in Mr. Harbert's file indicated that OSBEELS was notified of such action. Staff will investigate further.

Brian Bartle – The Committee reviewed a comity application from Brian Bartle for professional registration as a civil engineer. Mr. Bartle provided an official transcript from Carroll College demonstrating a Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Civil Engineering conferred in May 2000. Mr. Bartle also provided an official verification from the State of Montana demonstrating successful passage of the NCEES 8-hour FE examination in April 2001 and an official verification from the State of Washington demonstrating successful passage of the NCEES 8-hour PE examination in the civil discipline in April 2005. Additionally, Mr. Bartle provided a detailed experience record demonstrating 11 years and 6 months of qualified engineering experience and 5 references verifying his experience. After a brief discussion, the Committee determined that Mr. Bartle did not qualify for registration as a civil engineer; however, he may qualify for registration as a civil engineer by obtaining 6 months of qualified engineering experience. Staff will inform Mr. Bartle accordingly.

Ahmet Colakoglu – The Committee reviewed a comity application from Ahmet Colakoglu for professional registration as a structural engineer by comity. Mr. Colakoglu provided an official credential evaluation from NCEES Credential Evaluations demonstrating his BS in Civil Engineering from Middle East Technical University conferred in July 1995 is deficient in 11 semester credit hours in humanities and social science. Mr. Colakoglu also provided an official verification from the State of Delaware demonstrating successful passage of the NCEES 8-hour FE examination in October 2002. Additionally, Mr. Colakoglu provided official verification from the State of Virginia demonstrating successful passage of the NCEES 8-hour Structural Engineering (SE) I examination in April 2004 and successful passage of the NCEES 8-hour SEII examination in October 2004 and an NCEES Updated Registration form demonstrating current registration in the State of Virginia. Mr. Colakoglu also provided a detailed experience record demonstrating 10 years and 8 months of qualified engineering experience and 6 references verifying his engineering experience. After a brief discussion, **the Committee determined that Mr. Colakoglu met the minimum requirements for registration and will place him on the list of comity applications for approval by the Board during the July 10, 2012 Board meeting.** Staff will inform Mr. Colakoglu accordingly.

James Hart – The Committee reviewed a comity application from James Hart for professional registration as a land surveyor by comity. Mr. Hart provided an official transcript from the University of Arkansas demonstrating a BS degree in Forestry Management conferred in June 1977. Mr. Hart also provided an official verification from the State of Arkansas demonstrating successful passage of the NCEES 8-hour Fundamentals of Land Surveying (FLS) examination in April 1980, as well as successful passage of the Arkansas state specific Professional Land

Surveying (PLS) examination in April 1981. Additionally, Mr. Hart provided a detailed experience record demonstrating 30+ years of qualified land surveying experience and 5 references verifying his land surveying experience. After a brief discussion, the Committee determined that staff inquire more information regarding the Arkansas state specific PLS examination administered in April 1981.

Stanley Helenschmidt – The Committee reviewed a comity application from Stanley Helenschmidt for professional registration as a geotechnical engineer by comity. Mr. Helenschmidt provided an official transcript from San Diego State University demonstrating a BS degree in Civil Engineering conferred in 1980. Mr. Helenschmidt also provided an official verification from the State of California verifying his successful passage of the NCEES 8-hour FE examination in April 1980, successful passage of the NCEES 8-hour PE examination in the Civil discipline in April 1983, as well as his successful passage of the California State Specific Geotechnical Engineering examination. Additionally, Mr. Helenschmidt provided a detailed experience record describing 15+ years of qualified geotechnical engineering experience and 5 references verifying his engineering experience. After a brief discussion, **the Committee determined that Mr. Helenschmidt met the minimum requirements for registration and will place him on the list of comity applications for approval by the Board during the July 10, 2012 Board meeting.** Staff will inform Mr. Helenschmidt accordingly.

Nathan Hemmer – The Committee reviewed a comity application from Nathan Hemmer for professional registration as a mechanical engineer. Mr. Hemmer submitted a written request for the Committee to consider reducing the number of his required professional references. Mr. Hemmer also provided an official transcript from Bradley University demonstrating a BS degree in Mechanical Engineering conferred in May 1994, an official transcript from Illinois Central College demonstrating course work completed from Fall 1989 to Spring 1992, and an official transcript from Northern Illinois University demonstrating course work completed from Spring 1996 to Spring 2001. Additionally, Mr. Hemmer provided an official verification from the State of Illinois demonstrating successful passage of the NCEES 8-hour FE examination in April 1994, as well as successful passage of the NCEES 8-hour PE examination in April 2008. Mr. Hemmer also provided a detailed experience record demonstrating 12+ years of engineering experience in which 2 registered professional references and 5 non-registered references verified his engineering experience. After a brief discussion, **the Committee determined that Mr. Hemmer met the minimum requirements for registration and will place him on the list of comity applications for approval by the Board during the July 10, 2012 Board Meeting.** Staff will inform Mr. Hemmer accordingly.

James Roecker – The Committee reviewed a comity application from James Roecker for professional registration as a structural engineer. Mr. Roecker provided an official transcript from University of Illinois demonstrating a Bachelor of Architecture conferred in June 1970 and a Master of Science (MS) degree in Architectural Engineering conferred in June 1971. Mr. Roecker also provided an official verification from the State of Illinois demonstrating successful passage of the Illinois State Specific General Knowledge and Fundamentals of Structures examinations in November 1976 and successful passage of the Illinois State Specific Structural Engineering (8hr) in April 1977. Additionally, Mr. Roecker provided correspondence from the Illinois State Board regarding his examination history. Mr. Roecker also provided a detailed

experience record demonstrating 30+ years of qualified engineering experience and 5 references verifying his engineering experience. After a brief discussion, **the Committee determined that Mr. Roecker met the minimum requirements for registration and will place him on the list of comity applications for approval by the Board during the July 10, 2012 Board Meeting.** Staff will inform Mr. Roecker accordingly.

Daniela Todesco – The Committee reviewed a comity application from Daniela Todesco for professional registration as a civil engineer. Ms. Todesco provided an official credential evaluation from NCEES Credential Evaluations demonstrating her BS in Environmental Engineering from the University of Pavia conferred in January 2003 is deficient in 10 semester credit hours in general education. Ms. Todesco also provided an official transcript demonstrating a MS degree in Civil Engineering from Marquette University conferred in May 2003 and correspondence regarding her educational background. Additionally, Ms. Todesco provided an official verification from the State of California demonstrating successful passage of the NCEES 8-hour FE examination in October 2004, as well as successful passage of the 8-hour PE examination in April 2008 in the Civil discipline. Ms. Todesco also provided a detailed experience record demonstrating 6 years and 11 months of qualified engineering experience and 5 references verifying her engineering experience. After a lengthy discussion, **the Committee determined that Ms. Todesco met the minimum requirements for registration and will place her on the list of comity applications for approval by the Board during the July 10, 2012 Board Meeting.** Staff will inform Ms. Todesco accordingly.

James Willson – The Committee reviewed a comity application from James Willson for professional registration as a land surveyor by comity. Mr. Willson provided an official transcript from Fresno State College demonstrating a BS degree in Surveying/Photogrammetry conferred in June 1974. Mr. Willson also provided an official verification from the State of California demonstrating successful passage of the NCEES 8-hour FLS examination in November 1974, as well as successful passage of the California State Specific PLS examination in November 1977. Additionally, Mr. Willson provided a detailed experience record demonstrating 30+ years of qualified land surveying experience and 5 references verifying his land surveying experience. After reviewing the information submitted, the Committee determined Mr. Willson qualifies for entrance into the October 2012 four-hour Oregon specific land surveying examination. Staff will inform Mr. Willson accordingly.

Examination Applications

Najib Kalas – The Committee reviewed an application submitted by Najib Kalas to sit for the FE examination. Mr. Kalas provided a credential evaluation from NCEES Credential Evaluations demonstrating his BS in Civil Engineering degree obtained from Al-Baath University conferred in September 1993 is deficient in 9 semester credit hours in mathematics and basic sciences. Mr. Kalas also provided a detailed experience record demonstrating 6 years and 7 months of qualified engineering experience and 3 references verifying his engineering experience. After a brief discussion, the Committee determined that Mr. Kalas did not qualify to take the October 2012 FE examination; however, he may qualify to take the FE examination upon completion of the 9 deficient semester credit hours in mathematics and basic sciences or by obtaining 1 year and 5 months of qualified engineering experience. Staff will inform Mr. Kalas accordingly.

Timothy Wilkinson – The Committee reviewed an application submitted by Timothy Wilkinson to sit for the October 2012 NCEES 16-hour Structural Engineering examination. Mr. Wilkinson provided a detailed experience record describing 4+ years of engineering experience, 5 references verifying Mr. Wilkinson’s experience, and correspondence requesting special consideration regarding his professional supervisory references. After a lengthy discussion, the Committee requested OSBEELS Member Grant Davis to review Mr. Wilkinson’s file.

Update: After Member Grant Davis’ review of Mr. Wilkinson’s file, it was determined that Mr. Wilkinson met the minimum requirements outlined in Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR) 820-010-0417 and qualifies to take the October 2012 NCEES 16-hour SE examination. Staff will inform Mr. Wilkinson accordingly.

Continuing Professional Development Audit

January 2012 Audit

Due to timing, the Committee will address the following individuals during the August Committee meeting:

Edmon Badmagharian
Maria DaSilva
Tomislav Gajic
Douglas Sponseller

Failure to Respond

The files from the January 2012 Audit for the following individuals were sent to the Regulation Department for failure to respond by a given deadline:

Kenneth Cobb	Gerald Zadikoff
Eric Kohl	David Burkhart
Jerry Alber	Vlad Diaconu
Maynard Flohaug	Kyu Han Jung
Shoji Hamaya	Soo Jong Kim
Leonard Knapp	David Kreighbaum
Lynn Colebank	Leroy Middleton
Sonia Henum	Jae Hwal Shin
Randall Raines	David Thomas
David Weiss	Chang Woo Lee

The meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m.